



Wait! Don't Flush That! Save Your Pipes, Don't Flush Wipes

A number of products including baby wipes, cleaning wipes, and dusting cloths advertise that they are flushable with minimal impact to a wastewater sewer system. While they do flush easily, as soon as they get out of sight they can get balled up in the pipes, caught on sewer equipment, and slow or reverse the flow of wastewater for an individual home or the Town sewer system. Unlike toilet paper, most of these paper products do not ever dissolve in the wastewater system.

Like many other communities, Bedford uses a grinding machine with blades to cut up any clumpy materials in order to avoid constant blockages of the sewer system, but problems may arise. When this machine goes down, DPW workers have to rake the debris off of big screens and dispose of it manually. This process takes significantly more time, is expensive, and can alter the operation of the wastewater pump station efficiency.

So, please help us ease the pressure on our sewer system by *only* flushing human waste and toilet paper, and using the nearest trash can for the rest. If you are a resident using a cleaning service for your house, please communicate to them that cleaning wipes should go into the trash, not the toilet. Overloaded sewer pipes are avoidable, and the solution is an easy one. Save your pipes...don't flush wipes!

For more information about wipes in your waste system view this laboratory informational video at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SLTVqkXVvNk>